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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Applicant : Peter LITSCHKO et al.

Serial No. : Not yet known (U.S. National Stage of PCT/EP00/04166 filed May 10, 2000)

Filed : Not yet known

For : METHOD FOR GENERATING PATIENT-SPECIFIC IMPLANTS

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Preliminary to examination, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend claims 1-4 as follows, the amendments being shown by brackets and underscoring in the Appendix I hereto:

1. (Amended) Method for manufacturing a patient-specific implant, comprising generating a virtual three-dimensional model from image data of at least the patient's implant area and the environment thereof, comparing the virtual three-dimensional model to real medical reference data, selecting from the real medical reference data a set of said reference data best suited for the patient and forming a reference model object therefrom, generating a virtual implant model

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